



Renowned Philadelphia Glass Artist Judith Schaechter's Largest Scale Work Opens at the Claire Oliver Gallery with the Exhibition, Super/Natural



Judith Schaechter, *Super/Natural*, stained glass and wood construction, 96 x 60 x 60 in, 2025 (Detail dome)

Claire Oliver Gallery is proud to present Judith Schaechter's masterpiece, *Super/Natural*, In Harlem, NY From May 1, through July 2, 2026.

Super/Natural, a monumental work, takes form as a stunning eight-foot-tall dome designed for a single viewer. The immersive stained-glass environment represents a "three-tiered cosmos" that explores the idea of biophilia, the human tendency to connect with nature.

Judith Schaechter, who lives and works in Philadelphia, produced *Super/Natural* in a year and a half as artist-in-residence at the Penn Center for Neuroaesthetics. While creating this multi-tiered masterpiece of glass craft, she attended lab meetings with a pioneering team of researchers and scientists who study the

neural and biological basis of aesthetic experiences. Their research, and Schaechter's recent work, explores relationships between art, beauty, morality, and the brain.



The Super/Natural dome's 65 panels are filled with a riot of imagined insects, flora, plants, and birds, encouraging visitors to imagine themselves subsumed in the natural world, with all its beauty, violence, decay, and growth. The central stained-glass structure, reminiscent of a church, creates a sublime sanctuary space for the secular.

"My goal is to invite viewers into a deeply personal, immersive experience that explores the connections between self, nature, and imagination," Schaechter said. "We are ultimately connected to, not just observing, nature."



(L&R) Judith Schaechter, Super/Natural, (Detail, panels)

(C) Judith Schaechter, Super/Natural, stained glass and wood construction, 96 x 60 x 60 in, 2025

Schaechter's work can be found in many prestigious museum collections including the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the Smithsonian American Art Museum in Washington, D.C., The Victoria and Albert Museum of Art in London, and the State Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, to name but a few. Among many other honors, Schaechter was awarded the John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship, the USA Artists, Rockefeller Fellowship in Crafts, and was the recipient of the Smithsonian Visionary Award in 2024.

Judith Schaechter: Super/Natural exhibition May 1– July 2, 2026: Hours for interior viewing of the Super/Natural dome are 11 a.m.– 6 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday during gallery hours.

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Hours of Operation: Tuesday-Saturday 11:00 am – 6:00 pm

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Panel photos by Dom Episcopo
Dome & full structure photos by Christian Giannelli



ABOUT JUDITH SCHAECHTER

Judith Schaechter has lived and worked in Philadelphia since graduating in 1983 with a BFA from the Rhode Island School of Design Glass Program. She has exhibited widely, including in New York, Los Angeles and Philadelphia, The Hague and Vaxjo Sweden. She is the recipient of many grants, including the Guggenheim Fellowship, two National Endowment for the Arts Fellowships in Crafts, The Louis Comfort Tiffany Award, The Joan Mitchell Award, two Pennsylvania Council on the Arts awards, The Pew Fellowship in the Arts and a Leeway Foundation grant. Her work is in the collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, the Hermitage in Russia, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, The Corning Museum of Glass, The Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution and numerous other public and private collections. Judith's work is noted in two survey-type history textbooks, "Women Artists" by Nancy Heller, and "Makers" by Bruce Metcalf and Janet Koplos. Judith has taught workshops at numerous venues, including the Pilchuck Glass School in Seattle, the Penland School of Crafts, Toyama Institute of Glass (Toyama, Japan), Australia National University in Canberra Australia. She has taught courses at Rhode Island School of Design, the Pennsylvania Academy, the New York Academy of Art and at The University of the Arts, where she is ranked as an Adjunct Professor. Judith's work was included in the 2002 Whitney Biennial, a collateral exhibition of the Venice Biennale in 2012 and she is a 2008 USA Artists Rockefeller Fellow. In 2013 Judith was inducted to the American Craft Council College of Fellows.

ABOUT CLAIRE OLIVER GALLERY

Claire Oliver Gallery is located in Central Harlem in a four-story brownstone. For nearly 25 years, Claire Oliver Gallery has showcased and celebrated artwork, with a focus on work by women and people of color, which transcends and challenges the traditional art historical canon. Our forward-thinking program and exclusive commitment to the primary market allows for an intensive focus that has nurtured and grown the careers of our artists. Many of the gallery's artists have been included in The Venice Biennale, The Whitney Biennial, and biennales in Sydney, Pittsburgh, and Lyon and have exhibited works in major international museums including the Smithsonian American Art Museum, The Art Institute of Chicago, Center Georges Pompidou, The Philadelphia Museum of Art, and The Los Angeles County Museum of Art amongst others. Claire Oliver Gallery artists are included in the permanent collections of many important museums worldwide including The Smithsonian American Art Museum, The Art Institute of Chicago, The Tate Britain, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The State Hermitage Museum, MoMA, and the Museum of Arts and Design amongst many others. Claire Oliver Gallery held the first American exhibition for the Russian collaborative AES+F, whose work went on to twice represent Russia in the Russian pavilion of the Venice Biennale. Gallery artists have received prestigious fellowships including Fulbright, Guggenheim, USArtist and National Endowment for the Arts.

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